

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00 OTPE-00 EB-07 FCC-01

INR-07 NSAE-00 OC-05 USIA-06 COME-00 BIB-01 DODE-00

PRS-01 PA-01 EUR-12 IO-10 DOTE-00 AID-05 TRSE-00

OMB-01 /064 W

----- 077017

R 271450Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6625

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ETEL, BC, KE, LT, WZ, MI, TZ, UG, ZA, MZ

SUBJECT: REGIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS CONFERENCE HELD IN GABORONE

REF: A. GABORONE 537

B. LUSAKA 803

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

1. THE TENTH REGIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS CONFERENCE WAS HELD
IN GABORONE MAY 19-23 AND WAS ATTENDED BY BOTSWANA, KENYA,
LESOTHO, SWAZILAND, MALAWI, TANZANIA, UGANDA, ZAMBIA AND
MOZAMBIQUE. REPRESENTATIVES OF THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS
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UNTION ATTENDED THE CONFERENCE FOR THE FIRST TIME. THE CONFERENCE,

CHAired BY BOTSWANA, DISCUSSED THE PROPOSED AFRICAN
TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK, SATELLITE SERVICES TRAINING AND
LIAISON IN BOTH COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORTATION.

2. IN HIS OPENING ADDRESS TO THE CONFERENCE, MINISTER OF PUBLIC
SERVICE, INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING DANIEL KWELAGOBÉ CALLED
THE LACK OF A GOOD COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK AMONG THE RESPECTIVE
COUNTRIES QTE ONE OF THE MAJOR FACTORS INHIBITING THE GROWTH OF
INTRA-AFRICAN TRADE AND COOPERATION UNQTE. HE NOTED THAT THE
OAU HAD URGED THAT TOP PRIORITY BE GIVEN TO INSTALLATION OF
TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES. KWELAGOBÉ ALSO NOTED WITH
SATISFACTION THAT BOTH THE EAST-WEST TRANS-AFRICAN AND NORTH-
SOUTH INTERNATIONAL HIGHWAYS ARE PROGRESSING. SUMMING UP,
KWELAGOBÉ DESCRIBED THE CONFERENCE AS PART OF A CONTINENT-WIDE
MOVEMENT IN NUMEROUS FIELDS WHICH QTE WOULD BRING GREAT BENEFITS
TO OUR COUNTRIES AND IS OF CRUCIAL SIGNIFICANCE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT
OF OUR CONTINENT UNQTE.

3. COMMENT: THE EMBASSY VIEWS SUCH ACTIVITIES AS THE
REGIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS CONFERENCE, ORGANIZED BY THE AFRICANS
THEMSELVES, AS IMPORTANT COMPONENTS IN THE TYPE OF REGIONAL
ECONOMIC INTEGRATION OR COOPERATION MENTIONED IN REF A.
BOLEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TELECOMMUNICATION, MEETINGS, SPEECHES, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, COMMUNICATION LINES, HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975GABORO00692
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750185-0046
From: GABORONE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750514/aaaaamnr.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 GABORONE 537
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 AUG 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <09 DEC 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REGIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS CONFERENCE HELD IN GABORONE
TAGS: PFOR, ETEL, BC, XA, MZ, (KWELAGOB, DANIEL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006